



General Assembly

January Session, 2007

Amendment

LCO No. 6976

SB0122606976SD0

Offered by:

SEN. HANDLEY, 4th Dist.

SEN. HARP, 10th Dist.

To: Subst. Senate Bill No. **1226**

File No. 393

Cal. No. 336

"AN ACT ESTABLISHING A FALL PREVENTION PROGRAM."

1 Strike section 1 in its entirety and renumber remaining sections and
2 internal references accordingly

3 After the last section, add the following and renumber sections and
4 internal references accordingly:

5 "Sec. 501. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2007*) (a) The Commissioner of
6 Social Services shall, within available appropriations:

7 (1) Promote and support research to: (A) Improve the identification,
8 diagnosis, treatment and rehabilitation of older adults and others who
9 have a high risk of falling; (B) improve data collection and analysis to
10 identify risk factors for falls and factors that reduce the likelihood of
11 falls; (C) design, implement and evaluate the most effective fall
12 prevention interventions; (D) improve intervention strategies that have
13 been proven effective in reducing falls by tailoring such strategies to
14 specific populations of older adults; (E) maximize the dissemination of

15 proven, effective fall prevention interventions; (F) assess the risk of
16 falls occurring in various settings; (G) identify barriers to the adoption
17 of proven interventions with respect to the prevention of falls among
18 older adults; (H) develop, implement and evaluate the most effective
19 approaches to reducing falls among high-risk older adults living in
20 communities and long-term care and assisted living facilities; and (I)
21 evaluate the effectiveness of community programs designed to prevent
22 falls among older adults.

23 (2) Establish, in consultation with the Commissioner of Public
24 Health, a professional education program in fall prevention, evaluation
25 and management for physicians, allied health professionals and other
26 health care providers who provide services for the elderly in this state.
27 The Commissioner of Social Services may contract for the
28 establishment of such program through (A) a request for proposal
29 process, (B) a competitive grant program, or (C) cooperative
30 agreements with qualified organizations, institutions or consortia of
31 qualified organizations and institutions.

32 (3) Oversee and support demonstration and research projects to be
33 carried out by organizations, institutions or consortia of organizations
34 and institutions deemed qualified by the Department of Social
35 Services. Such demonstration and research projects shall be in the
36 following areas:

37 (A) Targeted fall risk screening and referral programs;

38 (B) Programs designed for community-dwelling older adults that
39 use fall intervention approaches, including physical activity,
40 medication assessment and reduction of medication when possible,
41 vision enhancement and home-modification strategies;

42 (C) Programs that target new fall victims who are at a high risk for
43 second falls and that are designed to maximize independence and
44 quality of life for older adults, particularly those older adults with
45 functional limitations;

46 (D) Private sector and public-private partnerships to develop
47 technologies to prevent falls among older adults and prevent or reduce
48 injuries when falls occur; and

49 (4) Award grants to, or enter into contracts or cooperative
50 agreements with, organizations, institutions or consortia of
51 organizations and institutions deemed qualified by the Department of
52 Social Services to design, implement and evaluate fall prevention
53 programs using proven intervention strategies in residential and
54 institutional settings."